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General Assembly
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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Identical letters dated 22 February 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Despite the appearance of amelioration of the situation on the ground in recent weeks, it is my regret to inform you that Israel, the occupying Power, in fact continues to pursue its illegal policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Just two days ago, on 20 February 2005, the Israeli Government approved the final route of the Wall it has been constructing in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since June 2002, in grave violation of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and in flagrant disrespect for the 9 July 2004 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice and the will of the international community, as expressed in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004.

If completed, the new route of the Wall will result in the de facto annexation of at least 7 per cent of the total area of the West Bank, not including the area of Occupied East Jerusalem. It is blatantly clear from the current and proposed route of the Wall that the aim of the occupying Power is to entrench its illegal seizure of large areas of land, confiscated for the building of settlement blocks, with the ultimate aim of illegally incorporating these areas.

This Wall is severing and isolating cities, towns and villages in the West Bank, imprisoning thousands of civilians in walled enclaves, and is causing the complete encirclement of East Jerusalem, isolating it from the rest of the West Bank. The freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population is thus being gravely infringed by the Wall and its associated regime, including the apartheid-like permit system, which is separating people from their homes, lands, jobs and schools. The consequent impact on the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people has been dire, deepening the humanitarian hardships being faced. Moreover, the continued construction of this Wall is seriously undermining the prospects for

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achieving the two-State solution, as it is making the establishment of an independent, viable and territorially contiguous Palestinian State physically impossible to achieve.

The Palestinian leadership strongly condemns the Israeli decision to continue its unlawful construction of the Wall. This recent decision by the Israeli Government has extremely dangerous strategic dimensions and reveals the very basic policy goal of this Government, which is based on exploiting the withdrawal from Gaza as a cover for its continued confiscation of land in the West Bank for the purpose of furthering its colonial and expansionist goals, including in particular in and around East Jerusalem. Such ongoing policies and practices are in total contradiction to the road map and endanger the prospects for a meaningful revival of the peace process aimed at the implementation of the road map and the achievement of the two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The international community must continue to be seized of this critical matter and must take measures to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease carrying out such measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitute breaches of international law and are a grave detriment to the serious efforts being exerted to revive the fragile peace process. The Security Council in particular has the duty to address this issue and to take the necessary measures to ensure that Israel upholds its responsibilities and legal obligations and that Member States also uphold their legal obligations in this regard, as mentioned in the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice and as overwhelmingly called for by the General Assembly in resolution ES-10/15 and numerous other resolutions.

In addition to these serious provocations and violations, the Israeli occupying forces continue to kill and wound Palestinian civilians. The occupying Power has repeatedly violated the fragile ceasefire that has been reached as it has continued to carry out assassinations, to use excessive force and to detain and arrest Palestinians. This has included the killing of several children, including Noran Eyad Deeb, aged 10, who was shot and killed by the occupying forces as she stood in the yard of an UNRWA school in Rafah on 31 January 2005, and Ala'a Hani Mohammed Abdelrahman Khalil, aged 15, who was killed in Beitunya on 15 February. In addition, the occupying forces, on 16 February, carried out the targeted killing of Issam Hamza Ali Mansour and Mahdi Satti Yousef Alqani near Nablus.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 213 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 26 January 2005 (A/ES-10/296-S/2005/46), constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, I regret to inform you that, since our last letter to you, at least 20 more Palestinians, including 8 children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 3,641. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Somaia **Barghouti**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex to the identical letters dated 22 February 2005 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (Thursday, 27 January to Sunday, 20 February 2005)

Thursday, 27 January 2005

1. Sayed Abdelmoati Zaker
2. Marwan Ghaleb Olwi (13 years old)
3. Rasem Suleiman Salamah Ghouneimat

Saturday, 29 January 2005

1. Ibrahim Suleiman Al-Shawaf
2. Ahmed Moussa Awida Abu Mostafa (17 years old) (died from wounds sustained on 30 December 2004)

Sunday, 30 January 2005

Abed Odeh Abujarboo

Monday, 31 January 2005

Noran Eyad Deeb (10 years old)

Tuesday, 1 February 2005

1. Mohammed Kamel Mohammed Ghaben (18 years old) (died from wounds sustained on 4 January 2005)
2. Nabil Ali Ahmed Al-Aidi

Saturday, 5 February 2005

1. Kinda Baha'a Omar Al Sharbani (1 year old)
2. Mohammed Shehda Al Bahri
3. Imad Joumah Abu Shalouf (18 years old)

Tuesday, 8 February 2005

Hisham Ali Habash

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 3,641.

Thursday, 10 February 2005

1. Ibrahim Fathi Abu Jazar
2. Saed Sadek Afana

Monday, 14 February 2005

Sabri Fayez Younes Al Rajoub (17 years old)

Tuesday, 15 February 2005

Ala'a Hani Mohamed Abdelrahman Dar Khalil (15 years old)

Wednesday, 16 February 2005

1. Issam Hamza Ali Mansour
2. Mahdi Satti Yousef Al Qani

Sunday, 20 February 2005

Jaafar Mohammed Eid Hatem Abboud